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**Paragraph Practice UGB Writing**

I. Should high schools students be able to drop out of school whenever they want?

A. High schools students should not be able to drop out of school whenever they want.

II. Reason 1 High school students who drop out have a higher unemployment rate than those with a high school diploma.

III. Reason 2 Dropouts are more likely to be incarcerated.

IV. Reason 3 Dropouts are a burden for taxpayers regarding services like welfare (public assistance) and food stamps.

V. Conclusion

Key phrases: dropout, incarceration, jobless(ness), unqualified

Introduction

Some students try to find some excuse to drop out of school such as family problems or pregnancy. Dropouts are a weight on society in several ways. Taxpayers are the people who end up paying for their decision to cut short their education. However, the burden they are to society is not just an economic problem, it’s social problem as well.Therefore, high school students should not drop out of school whenever they want.

1 First, the national unemployment rate in the USA is currently about 9.1%, which is even higher for high school dropouts who are unemployed at a rate of about 14%. Because dropouts are less qualified than high school graduates, they have an even lesser chance of getting a job. Their unemployment costs society in more ways than one.

2 When students drop out of school, it leaves them with too much free time to get into trouble. They have no money, so they may do whatever presents itself in order to bring in money. For example, they might steal or mug people. Also, since they have so much time on their hands, they are tempted to misbehave, use drugs, and break the law. For these reasons, a jobless dropout has a higher chance of winding up incarcerated.

3 Finally, because people who drop out of high school don’t receive an income, they go to human services and apply for public assistance such as food stamps, welfare, Medicaid, etc. Consequently, these services cost the government a lot of money, which is ultimately paid for by the taxpayers. Since we are currently in an economic downturn, the deficit is growing and these people continually rely on the government. So high school dropouts become a weight on society because taxpayers have to support them.

Conclusion

In conclusion, students who drop out of high school are going to face a dismal future because they are unqualified for most jobs. In fact, by reason of being jobless, high school students are going to be a burden on our society—especially when they find criminal ways to survive. For the aforementioned reasons, high school students should remain in school until they graduate. 359